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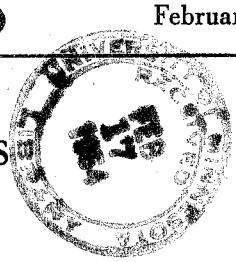

MASS HYPNOSIS ON THE CAMPUS

By E. MERRILL ROOT

IN A RECENT defiant blast at the critics of collectivism in colleges, President Nathan M. Pusey of Harvard declared that there is no present member of the Communist Party at Harvard college. Even if he is right — and what college president can surely know so secret and subtle a thing? — he evades the crux of the problem. For even when a man may keep the letter of legality he may fracture the spirit of loyalty.

Dr. Kirtley F. Mather of Harvard is not a Communist. Yet it was Professor Mather who sent out the famous letter of special pleading for M.I.T. Professor Dirk J. Struik declared by one witness under oath to be a Party member, the letter which asked Massachusetts clergymen to invite Professor Struik to appear before church groups, so that they might see what a jolly good fellow he was and feel his intellectual appeal. Did this not tend to neutralize the American mind toward such a figure? Did it harm Communism or did it help America?

Dr. Harlow Shapley of Harvard is not a Communist. Yet it was Professor Shapley who attended the World Conference of Intellectuals, held in Wroclaw, Poland, in August, 1948, where American artists (among them Eugene O'Neill and John Dos Passos) were called "jackals who learned to use a typewriter and hyenas who master the fountain pen", and where America was described as an imperialistic warmonger. And, undeterred by all this, it was Professor Shapley who was one of the sponsors and officials of the notorious Waldorf-Astoria "Peace Conference" a year later, where A. A. Fadayev declared that "the real threat to peace comes from the utter and complete inability of the rulers of the United States to devise a non-warlike program. . . ."; and where Clifford Odets could not "blame the Soviet Union because an apocalyptic beast is running loose in our world today and its name is MONEY, MONEY, MONEY".

Did not these conferences tend to neutralize the American mind toward Communism? Did they harm Communism and did they help America?

Such professors are not Communists. Their words and deeds are constitutionally legitimate and should never be censored or prohibited in free America. Yet can President Pusey say that these men enthusiastically oppose Communism or that they enthusiastically uphold America, by the letter about Professor Struik or by the conferences where America is attacked and Communism is defended?

The great illness in American colleges, so prevalent as not to be epidemic but endemic, is not participation in outright Communism, but a prevailing monopoly by a single

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strange "liberal" line which apologizes for, glosses over and misrepresents Communism. In a few extreme cases, this is so conscious, resolute, and deliberately chosen that it is clearly fellow-travelling. In many more cases — indeed in the most — it is a drugged, uncritical, compulsive obsession — a literal *hypnosis* — that obliterates the keen beauty of the intellectual life. It reduces the American Scholar of Emerson's dream to a reasonable facsimile of a zombie. It makes the academic mind today seem literally somnambulistic, moving like a sleepwalker in the dark delusion of an evil dream.

I mean this literally. I see no other possible explanation of the accepted cage of blind assumptions — the closed pattern of reaction — which characterizes and disfigures the "liberal" academic "intellectuals" whenever they touch the theme of Communism. We must say, in all humility and far this side of the crystal mind of Christ, "Forgive them, for they know not what they do." They know not what they do because they suffer from one of the mass delusions, the social manias, that, as Tolstoy says, in certain eras make certain groups rush mindlessly, like the Gadarene swine, into the death of the deep sea.

SEVERAL INSTANCES OF this mass hypnosis have recently come to my attention to illustrate how, under its spell, truth becomes a casualty of the closed mind. If these instances were mere sports of the academic life, with no single pattern and no cast-iron character, I would dismiss them as part of the healthy give-and-take of the intellectual life; but when again and again all is give and nothing is take, I begin to wonder at the hidden compulsions which hold the academic mind under hypnosis.

In the *Congressional Record* (July 27, 1953), Congressman Reece of Tennessee has a recorded speech. In it Congressman Reece discusses the Round Table of the University of Chicago. This (he says) "claims to be an educational program, but that is doubtful. To be a genuinely educational program, every one of the round-table broadcasts should have participants who are truly representative of the problem discussed. However, on the basis of my examination of transcripts of a great many of these round-table discussions, it appears that in most cases the background and ideology of the participants were so similar that no genuine discussion of controversial subjects could be expected. And in many cases the ideology of the participants was leftist."

Congressman Reece cites the round-table of August 18, 1946, dealing with the subject: "What Is Communism?" "The Participants were Milton Mayer, a Socialist journalist, and Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr., of Harvard University . . . and Lynn A. Williams, Vice President of the Stewart-Warner Corporation . . . ." Even Mr. Williams boasted that he tried to teach his workers "all the merits of what Marx had to say". As to the other participants, they of course took the usual "liberal" line, and spoke out of the contemporary hypnosis.

Congressman Reece cites broadcasts of March 14, 1948, of December 17, 1950, and of June 29, 1952 as clear examples of the one-party system in debate. Program after program, he says, was slanted, narrowed, misrepresented as "discussion" when it was only

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a song of sweet accord. This proves clearly the compulsions of social mania, which, perhaps unconsciously as in all hypnoses, condition too many in the academic world. And these Round Tables are broadcast to between 5 and 8 million people!

I have received direct personal confirmation of this in a great State University far from Chicago. My correspondent tells me in great detail of another "Round Table", sponsored by a student club, on the alleged subject: "Should Red China Be Admitted to the UN?" It was supposedly a "panel discussion". Five speakers of reputation from coast to coast engaged in this, with the final result that they *all,* for different reasons, agreed to the single conclusion: *Red China ought to be admitted to the UN!* What price debate?

Speaker A said that the Korean War had unfortunately pushed the question aside, but now it should be reconsidered: Red China should be admitted. Speaker B questioned the "moral judgment" of the American people on the question, and said it was not a reliable basis: Red China should be admitted. Speaker C was afraid the "Formosa block" would "push the President around" — which would be bad. He did not believe that recognition of a country meant approval of a country, and as an example he said that he recognized Senator McCarthy as the Senator from Wisconsin, but he did not approve of him. (At this highly original and witty remark, there was loud general laughter and applause.)

This speaker believed we could win China away from Russia: recognition might "pull China out of Russia's orbit. It might result in their disillusionment." (I wonder at the logic of "disillusioning" a gangster by rewarding him with a seat in the city council!) He said Red China should be admitted. Speaker D struck the keynote: they *all,* he said, were for the admittance of Red China. It was a question of internationalism versus nationalism, and of course he was for internationalism. Red China should be admitted.

Speaker E was for the admission because, he said, the "nationalist" government was no longer the government of China (as General de Gaulle's Free French was no longer the government of France when Petain took over). Red China should be admitted.

One speaker thought it was a question of practical politics: he said we would have to do some "horsetrading". One was afraid of hurting the feelings of Great Britain if we did not recognize China!

The song of sweet accord rose higher and higher, until all were singing in harmony at the end, and Red China was as good as seated. Of course these men have the right to the wrong ideas, but have they the intellectual right to call such a monopoly by hypnosis a "panel discussion"?

AT THE SAME UNIVERSITY, my correspondent and reporter tells me, just a month later, a distinguished foreign visitor (from Great Britain), who represented an international religious fellowship of pacifism, spoke on the subject: "The Soviet Union from Within". He had just been to Russia, and now he was reporting what he had seen and

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learned. He had, of course, a perfect right to do this and to report the truth as he saw it. It is strange, however, that here again the same "liberal" hypnosis was apparent.

For example, the speaker said that in Moscow he had met a "minister of education". He discussed with this man the whole concept of education, and told the minister that each individual must be free. The minister then told him: "We are not concerned with the individual. For the good of the greater number the individual must be sacrificed."

This alien corn so appealed to the speaker that he said his own question now "boomeranged"; he added that every question he asked or every objection he raised "boomeranged" in the same way, until he was stunned into agreement. One might have supposed he would have read his Bible, and been hep to the ancient verse: "It is expedient that one man should die for the people." But he could not recognize his old friends the Pharisees, possibly because they wore Russian blouses.

The speaker said that the Russians wanted only peace, and he accepted their statement at face value. The western idea of "peacemaking" however, he said, he and his fellowship "repudiated". He had a right to say this, but one cannot help wondering at his logic in accepting the statement of people whom at best he can only know little, and "repudiating" the statement of people who are his friends and neighbors. He believed that the great block to peace was — the exclusion of Red China from the UN. The Soviet Union, he said, "has solved the needs of the world", and the West is losing because it has little to give and no willingness to give it. He did not square these tall statements with the fact that 98 out of 100 Communist prisoners in Korea refuse, even under the harshest pressure, to return to the barbed wire paradise of those who have "solved the needs of the world".

Most amazing of all, in answer to a question, he admitted that the satellite countries have the atmosphere of a police state, then added: "I don't agree with Communism, but I think it is a healthy atmosphere. It's all part of the new era." When asked if the Russians resented the secret police, he glibly opined that they will get over that stage, and then they will understand "how improved their country will be". He said that, if Great Britain should disarm, the Russians would have to be pretty quick to get their troops there "before the Americans did. . . ." The Soviets would, of course, move in — "and the English would sense immediately that a better society had come into their midst".

A UNIVERSITY IS SUPPOSED to be devoted to the intellectual life, and to concentrate on the best that has been and is being done and said in the world. Is this sort of thing fully a realization of such an ideal? Is this monopoly, uncurbed by any Sherman anti-trust law, an example of the intellectual life? Are we so under the "liberal" hypnosis that we are only creatures that once were men? When shall we awaken from this dead yesterday that men forgot to bury?

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HUMAN EVENTS

FRANK C. HANIGHEN, *Editor* FRANK CHODOROV, *Associate Editor*

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Bricker on the March: Aroused Americans all over the country are pressing the fight for the Bricker Amendment with renewed vigor during what amounts to a recess of the Great Debate. Due to Lincoln Day dinner speeches (which have taken many Senators out of the Capital for a week), the Senate discussion of the proposal has been put off until next week. This increased activity out in the constituencies has been reflected in the large mail on Capitol Hill demanding passage.

The Bricker cause has also received encouragement from a review of the fight so far, as assessed by the best observers in the Capital. They believe that the crowd around Ike has clumsily handled its resistance to the obviously popular support for the amendment. Clearly, the White House boys have sought to stop the progress of Bricker and to defeat his proposal. But they have made a bad job of their pretense that they were interested in a compromise. Actually — as anyone can see from their consistent rejections of compromise drafts — they desire no compromise, only defeat of the amendment altogether. This attitude has proved to be a boomerang.

Moreover, they have alienated Democratic Senator George, who sought a compromise, and in effect have driven that powerful Southerner and Bricker closer together. Something like "realignment" has been peeking over the horizon.

Nor is that all. Additional legal ammunition has come to the aid of the amendment. The Senators have been pondering the lesson of the Pink Case — as telling a legal argument as the famous Missouri vs. Holland case. The Pink Case involved a Russian insurance company under the Czar which had a branch establishment in New York in 1907. This firm successfully resisted the expropriation sought by the new Bolshevik regime after 1919, until Litvinoff in 1934 engaged in negotiations with the Roosevelt regime for recognition of the Red Government by the U.S. Litvinoff assigned the funds of the insurance company to the U.S., to be used for the settlement of U.S.-Soviet obligations. The New York insurance superintendent and stockholders of the company, etc., refused to turn over the money and were sued by the U.S. Government. The U.S. Supreme Court decided in favor of the Federal Government — saying that the state of New York and the stockholders of the company and the Fifth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution could not stand in the way of the treaty power of the U.S.

Mr. Alfred Schweppe of the University of Washington Law School remarks: "This ruling that an executive agreement made by the President alone, without approval of the Senate is (like a treaty) the supreme law of the land and supersedes the Fifth Amendment as well of the law of New York, is highly dangerous."

So, the fight goes on, but is by no means won. The task of capturing two-thirds of the Senate or 64 Senators is difficult. George, it is calculated, could bring 15 Southern Democratic Senators to support Bricker, if he so chooses. Two Northern Democrats, McCarran and Johnson, are known to be for Bricker's proposal. That leaves to Bricker the job of obtaining the help of 46 GOP Senators, no mean mission to accomplish, if he is to rally the full two-thirds. Hence, the outcome depends vitally on the number of demands — by mail, etc. — that the amendment shall prevail.

The Armstrong Story: Experts on Communist tactics are eying suspiciously the death last week of the top radio scientist Major Edwin H. Armstrong in New York. Armstrong, creator of frequency modulation and father of other important electronic developments, plunged from the thirteenth floor of his

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apartment house. Prior to his death, the scientist had appeared before the McCarthy Committee in connection with its probe of Red espionage activities at Ft. Monmouth, New Jersey.

Armstrong told the Committee that at one time he had worked there and "had been mortally afraid" that secret radar discoveries by him and other scientists "were being fed to the Russians as fast as they could be developed". According to Senator McCarthy, the deceased also gave helpful leads on suspected Communists still at Ft. Monmouth and Soviet espionage agents outside. Was Armstrong a victim of the long arm of the Kremlin — was he silenced as a warning to others not to talk, or because he still had more to disclose? Intelligence sources take this matter seriously.

In addition to giving tips to the McCarthy Committee, Major Armstrong disclosed that after World War II the Russians had been given a destroyer fully equipped with our latest radar equipment *as a result of a private agreement at Yalta.* This equipment brought the Russians up to date with the U.S. on radar. Observers here regarded Armstrong's disclosure as just another hold-your-nose chapter in the now well-documented story of how the present military might of Russia has been largely due to the baffling generosity of *our own government.*

They point out that our armies could easily have gotten to Berlin first. But our forces were first halted at the Elbe — then withdrawn in a wide circle far enough Westward to make Stalin a present of the great Zeiss optical and precision instrument works at Jena, the most important V-1 and V-2 rocket laboratory and production plant at Nordhausen and the vital underground jet plant in Kahla. Everywhere we surrendered to the Russians intact thousands of German planes, including large numbers of fighters ready for assembly, as well as research centers, rocket developments, scientific personnel and other priceless military treasures. Finally, American troops were withdrawn from that part of East Germany where uranium mines were known to exist.

Unemployment: Editorial and headline nervousness over "unemployment" — a lot of it derived from Democratic Party forensics on the matter — is increasing. When we look to the cause of this concern (apart from the desire of Tammany Hall and, incidentally, the Kremlin, to promote a depression), we come to some figures issued by the Census Bureau last Friday. These figures show that last month, 2,360,000 men and women were off somebody's payroll, as against 1,850,000 in last December, and as against 1,162,000 in October. These figures were issued on the same day that the President sent his first annual Economic Report to Congress, in which he asserted that the government was prepared to use an "arsenal of weapons" — meaning interventions in the economy — to combat economic decline.

The figures would mean something if they were spelled out — and if the method of collecting them were put under a microscope. What and why is "unemployment"? Does the designation include the wife who took a job while her husband was in the army, and who has gone back to her household duties now that her breadwinner is at home? Does it include part-time workers who have gone back to college? Does it include baseball players who have been drafted and are therefore now "unemployed"? Does it include retired bureaucrats who, having accumulated enough to live on for a while, are now taking it easy until something good turns up?

The impression given by government figures is that lay-offs have increased because business conditions are bad. As against this inference, we have the figures of the President's Council of Economic Advisors showing that in 1953 the expenditures of the people for consumable goods increased by 5.4 per cent over 1952, and that in spite of this profligacy, gross private investment increased by 3.9 per cent, personal savings by 7.1 per cent; that average weekly earnings in manufacturing went up by 5.3 per cent, in construction by 6.8 per cent.

So, the question arises that if people are being fired right and left, how come they buy more, save more, earn more and invest more? Not that it is necessary to reconcile these contradictory figures, or that one pays much attention to government figures. But, it is important to see that these figures are not used to

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set the "arsenal of weapons" in operation; we must watch figures that give politicians an excuse for wrecking the economy.

Politics vs. Truth: While Democratic leaders on Capitol Hill call on Ike to stop Republican charges that the Truman Administration was "soft" towards Communism, the House Committee on Un-American Activities urges complete revision of the Foreign Agents Registration Act. Those who know just how soft Harry's reign was in combating the Red menace suggest that if the Democratic leaders want to know the truth they should find out what happened to this Act — cite it as a perfect example among many of how the Truman Administration gave almost unbelievable help to the objectives of the Kremlin.

The Foreign Agents Act was passed by Congress shortly after the war. It compelled any person distributing the propaganda of a foreign government to register with the Department of Justice and to clearly label the material as the propaganda of a foreign government. Shortly after passage of the Act many Communist propaganda agents suddenly went out of business; they knew that if they could not conceal the Moscow source of their material its indoctrinative effectiveness would be fatally impaired. But the propaganda kept on coming out. It poured out of the Russian and satellite Embassies in Washington and their consular offices over the nation. Red diplomats took over the job of putting out the propaganda of their governments without labelling it as such. By international law no diplomat can engage in propaganda work.

Some eight years ago the Attorney General wrote the Secretary of State pointing out that Red diplomats were engaging in propaganda work — put it up to him to stop their violation of international law which was scuttling the Foreign Agents Act. It would have been simple for the Secretary of State to have called the Communist diplomats on the carpet — told them to either cease their propaganda work or leave the country. But the Acting Secretary of State at that time was none other than Dean Acheson. He informed the Attorney General in substance that he was willing to recognize Communist propaganda activity as part of the legitimate functions of Communist diplomats in the United States.

Acheson's opinion still stands and Russia for eight years has made a joke of the Foreign Agents Act. Last year the Senate passed an amendment to the Act prohibiting diplomats from being propagandists — but it died in the House. This year another effort will be made to undo Acheson's incredible assist to the Russian propaganda machine in America.

Not Merely Gossip: In the corridors of the Pentagon the word is — the biggest Truman-Acheson holdover is none other than Gen. George C. Marshall. The former Chief of Staff and Secretary of State is, of course, retired. But he is living in Leesburg, Va., twenty miles from Washington and comes to the Capital frequently. It is known that his word is influential in the Eisenhower Regime even as it was in Truman's. After all, Marshall made Ike European Commander during the war and there remains a close bond. Today, those who know what goes on in the Pentagon say that Marshall (despite his reputation as a principal architect of our disastrous policy in the Far East) sways councils of generals and has his hand in the naming and retirement of same. General Ridgway, Army Chief, is reportedly much under the influence of Marshall and the latter is said to have urged the recent mass retirement of 500 high officers and their replacement by others. By this time, hardly a friend of General MacArthur (whom Marshall detests) is said to remain in the Pentagon.

● Lawyers among the Senators say that the real author of the "which clause" in the Bricker Amendment is Alfred J. Schweppe (quoted elsewhere in this issue), former Dean of Law at the University of Washington. Schweppe is an old friend and adviser of the Hon. Frank Holman, former President of the American Bar Association, who has done so much educational work in favor of Bricker's proposal.

● Senator McCarthy's committee may soon look into the situation in the Central Intelligence Agency, an area which last spring was barred to the Wisconsin Senator's delving on orders from the White House. The CIA, under Allen Dulles (brother of the Secretary of State) is somewhat better than it was under his predecessor, General "Beetle" Smith, but still far below its best period, which was under

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Admiral Hillenkoetter. Few deny that the place needs a house-cleaning — being liberally sprinkled with fellow-travellers, but more particularly a combination of Marxists, collectivists, "liberals" and climbers. A clique of these people has been working hard to favor "the non-Communist Left" in Western European countries. McCarthy knows this and is on the warpath.

Profiting from Taxes: Howard Hughes has been making too many profits. Several businesses which he owns are efficiently operated, as their sales reports indicate, and consequently he is in difficulty; because of his big profits he is losing money. It is the now well-known story of the more you make the more you lose, thanks to the income tax laws.

So, he startles the financial world by offering more than twice the market price of the stock of a company that is losing money — RKO Pictures. What did he buy? A loss. And that is a profitable thing these crazy days. For, by applying the loss of RKO to the profits of one of his successful companies he reduces the tax "bite", and is left with a little more of his earnings. Last Monday morning the stockholders of RKO pictures found themselves enriched, not by Mr. Hughes' munificence, but by the taxes he saved through the purchase of their company.

Swiss Inspiration: American observers coming back from Europe are still talking about what happened in Switzerland on December 6 when the Swiss people administered a sturdy rebuff to certain politicians who thought they could remodel the Swiss Constitution along socialist lines. Considering how we have been steadily losing our own Constitution, these observers found inspiration in what happened in Switzerland.

The Swiss Constitution, now over a century old, was closely modelled on our Constitution. It embodies the principle of limited power — particularly as applied to the Federal government. The powers of the central government are sharply restricted. It cannot interfere with health, education or welfare; and our Department of "Health, Education and Welfare" wouldn't have a chance of being set up in the Swiss Federal Government. Most important, the Swiss constitutional fathers restricted the taxing power of the central government to import duties.

But last December the socialism which has been sweeping the rest of Western Europe, knocked at the door of the Swiss People. A constitutional amendment was proposed giving the Swiss central government the power to levy individual income taxes. In World War I the Federal government was empowered temporarily to levy this tax. Again in World War II it was temporarily allowed. Swiss radicals hoped to make the tax permanent.

The income tax amendment surprisingly passed both Houses of the Swiss Legislature and was supported by all Swiss Parties except one (Peasant's Party). It then had to be ratified by a majority of the people in the 24 Swiss Cantons (equivalent of States) and by a majority of the Cantons, each Canton having one vote. The popular vote against the amendment was overwhelming and only two Cantons out of the 24 supported it. It was in the two Cantons supporting the amendment that the Federal government does most of the limited spending permitted it — and observers took note of this fact.

UN Unpopularity: The twenty-eighth annual Women's Patriotic Conference on National Defense representing over 90 women's groups over the nation, meeting in Washington last week, called upon Congress to withdraw from the United Nations. Last year speakers at the American Legion Convention used strong language in denouncing the UN and the convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars asked Congress to make a thorough investigation of UNESCO for indoctrinating the minds of school children with one-worldism. Yet, the Administration prepares to strengthen the whole UN set-up through amendment of its charter in 1955.

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